

MIAMI GARDENS DRIVE RECONSTRUCTION PROJECTS BEGIN FEBRUARY 2004

This February, The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) will begin the Miami Gardens Drive Reconstruction Projects, which include numerous safety and roadway improvements from NW 28th Court to NW 2nd Avenue.

Three separate but related projects represent the final phase of a comprehensive plan designed to improve traffic flow and safety along Miami Gardens Drive from NW 57th Avenue to NW 2nd Avenue. Improvements between NW 57th Avenue and NW 28th Place were completed in December 2002. This project consists of three segments:

- NW 28th Place to NW 14th Avenue
- NW 14th Avenue to NW 2nd Avenue
- Widening the Turnpike Bridge over Miami Gardens Drive

In order to complete these projects in a timely manner and minimize impacts to area residents, businesses and the motoring public, these segments will be constructed at the same time. The work is expected to last approximately two years and cost an estimated \$20 million. Please note however, that bad weather and other unforeseen circumstances could impact this schedule.

Scope of Work:

- Relocating utilities along the corridor (this work is being performed by utility owners and/or their subcontractors)
- Installing a new Sewer Force Main along Miami Gardens Drive (This work is being performed in conjunction with Miami Dade Water & Sewer Department, under a Joint Partnering Agreement.)
- Reconstructing the frontage roads and changing traffic flow to allow one-way traffic only
- Constructing new northbound and southbound bridges on the Florida Turnpike over Miami Gardens Drive
- Widening Miami Gardens Drive to add one additional travel lane in each direction
- Installing new storm water drainage to ease roadway flooding in the project area
- Reconstructing medians to comply with current safety standards
- Installing new traffic signals, signs and roadway lighting
- Installing new landscaping in the medians and swale areas
- Building new sidewalks, curb and gutter and wheelchair ramps

Motorists Impacts:

There will be lane closures associated with these projects. Speed limits will be reduced throughout the construction zone. However, access to local neighborhoods, businesses and residences will be maintained at all times. Demolition of the existing bridges over the Florida Turnpike will require temporarily closing Miami Gardens Drive and detouring all traffic from the demolition area. The exact schedule for this work is yet to be determined.

Residential & Business Impacts:

It will be necessary to rebuild driveways along the corridor when the new sidewalks are installed. Project personnel will coordinate this work with business and property owners to minimize any inconveniences.

For more information about the Miami Gardens Drive Reconstruction Projects, please contact the Project Public Information Manager, Tish Burgher at (305) 499-2391 or (786) 586-2351.